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To hihwmanagementplan@noaa.gov

Subject Testimony on Whale Sanctuary

I would like the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary to include the following in the Management Plan Review;

- Establish laws to protect whales from vessel strikes. Include a speed limit of 13 knots during whale season and strict enforcement and penalties for any vessel breaking the speed limit or hitting whales.
- Fund water quality monitoring and strict laws to stop sewage dumping, pesticide and chemical runoff.
- Limit all sonar activity during whale season and comply with NOAA noise policies to prevent or mitigate acoustic impacts to whales.
- Make strong laws to have all fishing nets identifiable and hold fishers' liable for derelict nets, and a reward for boaters who collect stray nets.
- Make laws to protect reef habitat and to establish "No Take" Marine Conservation Areas on Kauai.
- Expand sanctuary boundaries, especially on Kauai. More resources should be spent on enforcement of existing laws (Marine Mammal Protection Act and Endangered Species Act).
- Take a strong stand against commercial factory fisheries.
- Ban aquarium fish extraction statewide.
- The Sanctuary should be much more vocal and proactive about the serious threats to whales and all ocean life. Educate the public on the realities of the situation.
- Create a rehabilitation center for all marine mammals and turtles on Kauai.

Mahalo nui loa for seriously considering the above requests.  
Aloha, Kirstin Morris